



Praise for the Town Hall

The Town Hall is the first comprehensive rulemaking website in the nation and has been recognized in numerous national and state awards:

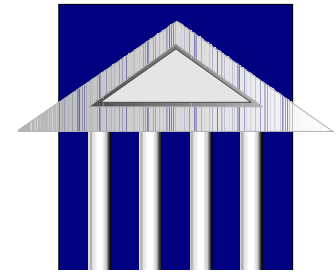
- American Association of Law Libraries
Public Access to Government
Information Award (2003)
- National Association of Secretaries of
State ACR Colburn Innovation Award
(2002)
- Center for Digital Government Best of
Breed Award (2002)
- egov Trailblazer Award (2002)
- Governor's Technology Award (2002)
- Virginia Coalition for Open Government
Freedom of Information Award (2001)

The Virginia Regulatory Town Hall is online government at its best -- streamlining day-to-day work of state agencies and plugging citizens into a sophisticated, interactive set-up for "7/24" public comment, customized user profiles and request-only e-mail alerts....it gives Web-active citizens all over the state a simple, fee-free way to get better informed, fully heard and actively involved.

-Forrest M. Landon, Executive Director
Virginia Coalition for Open Government

Virginia Regulatory Town Hall
Virginia Department of Planning and Budget
200 N. Ninth St., Room 418
Richmond, VA 23219

Virginia Regulatory Town Hall



townhall.Virginia.gov

“the mother of
all government
regulatory portals”

-Steven L. Clift
Democracies Online Newswire



What is rulemaking?

Rulemaking is the process used by state agencies to make regulations. Regulations are promulgated to implement state law and have the force and effect of law. Regulations affect many areas of your life such as how fast you can drive, the qualifications of your doctor, pollution control requirements, standards for SOL testing, and many more.

Rulemaking ensures that *you* have an opportunity to participate and that all perspectives are considered in the development of a final regulation.

The Town Hall gives you the tools to participate effectively.

On the Town Hall web site, you can find out all about Virginia's regulations, submit on-line comments, and even sign up to receive customized e-mail notification. Best of all, Town Hall services are *free* to all users.

The Town Hall is your one-stop shop for rulemaking in Virginia.



Popular features

Regulatory docket. View all regulatory actions in progress.

Access to documents. Get access to a wide range of rulemaking documents, including:

- Texts of proposed regulations
- Agency background documents explaining regulatory actions
- Economic impact analyses
- Meeting agenda and minutes
- Agency guidance documents
- And much more

Meetings calendar. Quickly identify all meetings and public hearings that will address particular regulations. You may also access meeting agendas and minutes.

Legislative mandates. Find out what regulations are being promulgated in response to recent changes in state law.

Petitions for rulemaking. Discover what the public has requested be changed about particular regulations and how an agency has responded to these requests.



Special features for registered users

E-mail notification service. Sign up for customized notification of new proposed regulations and public meetings.

Public comment forums. Make your voice heard as regulations are developed, and learn what others are saying.

My Town Hall. Create a customized list of meetings and regulatory actions that you wish to track.

To become a registered user. Just click on "Enter Town Hall," then "Fast & easy sign-up" on the blue menu bar.

Helpshapeyourstategovernment
byparticipatinginrulemaking.

ExploretheTownHall.